



Darrell D. Slone, Director, Counterintelligence
Darrell.d.slone@nasa.gov

TYPES OF ADVISORIES

Bulletin

Describes current developments or general trends regarding threats of terrorism.

Elevated Alert

Warns of a credible terrorism threat against the United States.

Imminent Alert

Warns of a credible, specific and impending terrorism threat against the United States.

**Office of Protective
Services**

May 2018 DHS Bulletin

NASA CI/CT MONTHLY NEWS UPDATE – September 2018

This monthly newsletter is published to inform NASA personnel of significant issues related to counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and counterintelligence cyber matters. To learn more about CI/CT awareness, or to schedule a CI/CT presentation, please contact the CI point of contact located on the last page.

Significant Counterterrorism (CT) Issues:

AS MANY AS 30,000 ISIS FIGHTERS MAY STILL BE IN IRAQ AND SYRIA



Tens of thousands of Islamic State jihadists are still waging war in Iraq and Syria, new reports reveal, suggesting that the global terrorist group may be far from defeated despite its battlefield losses. There are up to 31,600 ISIS fighters in Iraq and Syria, according to recent Defense Department data.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/as-many-as-30000-isis-fighters-still-in-iraq-and-syria-2018-8>

AL QAEDA AT 30 SHOWS SIGNS OF RESURGENCE AFTER ISIS ROUTED

Thirty years after its founding on Aug. 11, 1988, Al Qaeda is showing signs of a resurgence following ISIS's near-defeat in Iraq and Syria, experts warn. Al Qaeda shares the same long-term goals as ISIS, but is pursuing them more slowly and carefully.



<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2018/08/11/al-qaeda-at-30-shows-signs-resurgence-after-isis-routed.html>

AL-QAIDA BOMB MASTER KILLED IN US STRIKE, OFFICIALS SAY



Al-Qaida's chief bomb maker, Ibrahim al-Asiri, who was behind the 2009 Christmas Day plot to down an airliner over Detroit and other foiled aviation-related terror attacks, was killed in a U.S. drone strike. The killing of al-Asiri deals a heavy blow to the group's capabilities in striking western targets.

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/nationworld/sns-bc-ml--yemen-al-qaeda-bomb-master-20180817-story.html>

Significant Counterintelligence Issues:

HOW SILICON VALLEY BECAME A DEN OF SPIES

Foreign spies have been showing up uninvited to San Francisco and Silicon Valley for a very long time. According to U.S. intelligence officials, that is true today more than ever. In fact, they warn that there is a full-on epidemic of espionage on the West Coast right now.



<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2018/07/27/silicon-valley-spies-china-russia-219071>



SUSPECTED RUSSIAN SPY FOUND WORKING AT US EMBASSY IN MOSCOW



US counter-intelligence investigators discovered a suspected Russian spy had been working undetected in the heart of the American embassy in Moscow for more than a decade.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/aug/02/suspected-russian-spy-us-embassy-moscow-secret-service>

GE EMPLOYEE IS CHARGED WITH STEALING COMPANY'S TRADE SECRETS

Federal prosecutors say an engineer at General Electric's upstate New York turbine manufacturing plant was charged with stealing the company's trade secrets. The U.S. Attorney's Office said recently that 55-year-old Xiaoping Zheng removed electronic files with company trade secrets involving its turbine technologies and hid data files in a digital photograph of a sunset. Prosecutors say he then emailed the picture to his email account.



<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-01/ge-employee-charged-with-stealing-company-s-trade-secrets>

Analyst Notes – Items to Watch:

Although the ISIS Caliphate has been destroyed, thousands of radical Islamic fighters remain in Iraq and Syria. Al-Qaeda (AQ) remains strong after 30 years of existence and has stepped into the role as the leader of the international “Jihadi” movement. The killing of Ibrahim al-Asiri was the most significant CT success in years, as he was key in threatening western targets with sophisticated explosive devices. Terrorism plots against the United States and other western nations continue to be discovered and disrupted monthly. The media is beginning to cover the vast espionage effort from China, with stories being headlined almost weekly. China’s intelligence efforts against the U.S. includes not only students, but U.S. naturalized citizens of Chinese decent working in the United States; as well as luring tech-savvy personnel to work for the Chinese government. The technology acquisition effort is multi-faceted and unprecedented in recent history. The NASA CI/CT division continues to monitor these threats and any others that have the potential to harm NASA or its equities.

NASA CI Offices:

Ames Research Center: Christopher Knoth, (650) 604-2250
Armstrong Flight Research Center: Frank Sutton, (661) 276-7476
Glenn Research Center: George Crawford, (216) 433-8458
Goddard Space Flight Center: Christian Breil, (301) 286-1533
Jet Propulsion Laboratory: John J. O’Malley, (818) 354-7828
Johnson Space Center: Tony Dietsch, (281) 483-7921
Kennedy Space Center: Ron Storey, (321) 867-2568
Langley Research Center: Benjamin Marchione, (757) 864-3403
Marshall Space Flight Center: Ron Smith, (256) 544-7808
NASA Headquarters: Art Payton, (202) 358-4645
Stennis Space Center: David Malcom, (228) 688-1683
NASA Headquarters Cyber: Stefan Morgan, (202) 358-1294